

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 5, 2010. Claims 31 and 33-37 are pending in the application, of which claims 31 and 33 are in independent form. Claims 1-30 and 32 have been canceled in this case. Claims 34-37 are duplicates of former dependent claims 17 and 19, with claims 34 and 35 now depending from claim 31, and claims 36 and 37 now depending from claim 33. These amendments are being made to conform with 35 U.S.C. § 112 (4), which requires that "... a claim in dependent form shall contain a reference to a claim *previously set forth* and then specify a further limitation of the subject matter claimed." (Emphasis added) Favorable consideration is hereby requested.

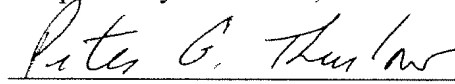
The Office Action rejected claims 16, 17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Publication No. 8-323067. Applicants have canceled claim 16 thus rendering this rejection moot.

Applicants note that the Examiner pointed out on page 5 of the Office Action that claims 31 and 33 include allowable subject matter. Consequently, Applicants request that a notice of allowance be issued in this case as claim 31 and claim 33 are the only independent claims currently pending and dependent claims depend from either claim 31 or claim 33.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney if a telephone call could help resolve any remaining items.

Date: July 6, 2010 (Tuesday)

Respectfully submitted,


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